SI. No.	Name of region/ commissionery	Number of units as on 30.4.2000
11.	Raipur	40744
12.	Bastar	5644
	TOTAL	323956

Export performance in IT

*80. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to improve export performance in the field of Information Technology;

(b) the break-up of achievement in Information Technology, software and services and electronics during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(c) the target fixed for export in these sectors for the next three years and also to give boost to computer hardware manufacturing sector; and

(d) the details thereof? '

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of exports of Electronics Hardware and Computer Software are as under:

(Rs. Crores)

		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1.	*Electronics* Hardware	3,000	1,800	1,400
2.	Computer Software	6,500	10,940	17,150

(c) and (d) The export targets for 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 during IX Plan are as under:

(Rs Crores)

		2000-01	2001-02
1.	Electronic Hardware	8,840	12,430
2.	Computer Software	23,100	36,500

The details of incentives for IT sector are given in the Statement.

Statement

Incentives to IT Sector

To encourage and promote information technology business abroad, the Government of India has abolished licensing and simplified the procedures to make them transparent. The following major steps have been taken to promote export of IT Sector:

1. To provide legal framework so as to facilitate Electronic Commerce in the country, the Government has drafted Information Technology Act. The Act provides legal framework for amongst others recognition of electronic contracts, prevention of computer crimes, and electronic filing/documents. The mechanism of digital signature has been approved to address the issues of jurisdiction, authentication and origination.

2. Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme at 5% duty.

3. Foreign direct Investments upto 100% allowed.

4. Software Technology Parks Scheme.

5. Special Stock Option Schemes for Indian Software Companies linked with ADR/GDR offering.

6. Working Capital Finance to Information Technology and Software Industry.

7. Sweat Equity has been introduced in the Companies Act.

8. Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) access up to 50% of FOB value of exports for units under Export Oriented Unit (EOU); Export Processing Zone (EPZ)/Software technology Parks (STP) Scheme.

9. Depreciation on Computer @60% per annum.

10. Reduction in Custom Duty on computer and peripherals to 15%. The customs duty on all storage devices, integrated, efrecuits, microprocessors, data display tubes and deflection components of colour monitors is @0.%

11. Software exempted from custom duty and excise duty.

12. Relaxation in income tax to software units under EOU/ EPZ/STP Schemes.

13. Exemption of withholding tax on interest on External Commercial Borrowings. -

14. Computer systems have been made freely importable. The donation of used computer to educational institutes, hospitals etc. have been permitted duty free from units in EOU/EPZ/STP/ Electronics Hardware Technology Park (EHTP).

15. Exemption on income from dividents on Venture Capital Fund.

16. "Business Support Centre" has been opened in "Silicon Valley" California, USA to assist small & medium enterprises in establishing strategic alliance in the US.